

4992

C O U N S E L



FRIENDS CHILDREN,

By ANTHONY PURVER.

The Fifth Edition. Price 1d.

DE A R *little Friends*, not tainted yet with Ill,
By Sense not bials'd, nor misled by Will;
Whose (a) Angels with th' Almighty's Beck attend,
Now view his Face, now watch the Child and Friend:
You, whom the (b) Lord approves, whom Men admire,
Whom Fathers love, and (c) Mothers do desire,
To you the flowing Counsel I impart,
Fresh as it ran (d) this Morning through my Heart.

* Where *Parnel*, Ah! so dear! so young! became
Prey to the Mob, and those who Mobs inflame:

A

When

(a) Mat. xviii. 10. (b) Mat. xix. 14. (c) 2 Sam.
xviii. 33, &c. Gen. xxx. 1, &c. (d) 22d of the 6th
Month 1737. * At Coggleshall in Essex.

When *Truth divine* he then, and oft, had taught,
 For Truth (*e*) contended, and for Truth had wrote;
 Which he did with his precious Life maintain,
 Preaching, (*f*) convincing, when upon the Chain
 From Prison led with *Felons* to be try'd,
 And carried back, by cruel Usage dy'd.

Fear, fear the Lord, his awful Presence fear,
 And dare not sin, for he is ever (*g*) near:
 Behold *within* the Light of Jesus shine
 Serene and saving, chearing and divine;
 Walk *in this Light*, and by it all Things see,
 Both what you are, and what you ought to be
 Abroad, at Home, in Company, alone,
 At School, at Meals, at Work, at Rest, 'tis one.

When in the Streets you *wicked Words* do hear,
 This mind, it soon will bid you not give Ear,
 And looking at *vain Sights*, that you forbear:
 Go when it tells ye you should go your Way;
 The Peace of God will then be yours that Day.

III

(*e*) Jude iii. (*f*) Particularly Elizabeth Winkfield,
 who was convinced by him, and who preached the same
 Truth when upwards of an 100 Years old, at the Town
 where he died, being carried 18 Miles for that Purpose
 at her own Desire. (*g*) Psalm iv. 4.

Ill Company, that worst of Snares, refrain,
 Let them entice, but still entice in (*b*) vain :
 How will your Parents, or your Friends, rejoice,
 When they shall hear their Childrens happy Choice !
 How will they love you, and the silent Tears
 Bespeak their Hopes of your increasing Years !
 What Pray'rs and Wishes in their Bosoms spring !
 What Thanks, for you, unto their God and King !
 Parents best know, whose anxious Minds have born
 Care for their Offspring, Day, and Night, and Morn :
 The joyful Tidings which salute their Ear,
 When of their Childrens (*i*) shunning *Sin* they hear,
 What pleasing Passions vary in their Breast,
 When the (*k*) young Victors bravely thus contest ?

Watch all your Words, and ever speak the *Truth* :
 What more belov'd, or comely is, in Youth ?
Lye not in Jest, nor in a trifling Thing ;
 'Tis still a *Lye*, and may to greater bring :
 Tho' it should not ! Would'st thou the *Truth* thus sell ?
 Thus forfeit (*l*) Heaven, and thus purchase Hell ?
 If by Neglect, by Chance, or otherwise,
 A Dread of some *Displeasure* should arise,
 Humbly declare it unto them you fear,
 And thus make Way that they the *Truth* may hear,

A 2

I doubt

(*b*) Prov. i. 10. (*i*) Prov. iv. 14, 15. (*k*) Gen.
 xxxix. 9. 12. (*l*) Rev. xxi. 8. 27. Heb. xii. 16.

*I doubt I've something done that is amiss ;
 Be not displeas'd, I'll tell thee what it is.
 What Parent, or what Friend, will angry be,
 When Youths so honest, and so wise, they see ?*

*Dress not to please, nor imitate the Nice ;
 Be like good Friends, and follow their Advice :
 The Rich Man, gaily cloth'd, is now in (m) Hell ;
 And Dogs did eat attired (n) Jezebel.*

*Nor learn to jest, nor (o) Sacred Things abuse,
 True Wisdom learn, and all such Wit refuse :
 This leads unthinking Youths by Rote to rave,
 By Rote to reason, and forsooth, talk grave ;
 Be • Deists first, then what the Dev'l would have.* }

*Desire not many Things, nor here much (p) Love ;
 Young Friends, your Portion is in Heaven above :
 Here you must live a Self-denying Life,
 And share with us in Suffering, Scorn, and Strife ;
 Here shun the Liberties which others take,
 And yield up all for Holy Jesus' Sake.*

Speak

(m) Luke xvi. 19, &c. (n) 2 Kings ix. 30, &c.
 (o) Mat. vii. 36. • By *Deists* is here meant such as
 turn from the Christian Faith. (p) 1 Tim. vi. 7, 8.

Speak *truly* still with *Thou* and *Thee* to One,
 As unto God; and feed the Pride in None;
 Give them no *flattering Titles*, tho' they scoff,
 Lest God (*q*) provok'd, should quickly cut you off.
 Him only did not the (*r*) *three Children* fear,
 And with their Hats before the King appear?
 What *Faithful Friends* have suffer'd in this Kind
 Trample not on, but often call to mind:
 The same *unerring Light*, if kept unto,
 Will shew *you* what it did your Fathers show.

When thou hast warn'd been in this, my Dear,
 Not Man to *flatter*, nor yet Man to fear;
 Then dost thou know thy Lord and Master's Will,
 And thine 'tis then for ever to fulfil:
 He that transgresses, how can he expect
 God still to speak, if he it still neglect?
 Thus if thou art not mov'd by *Sneer* or *Frown*,
 Angels from Heaven with Pleasure will look down,
 And lend their Ears to hear *Truth's* Language told;
 The (*s*) Foe be silenc'd, and the Child so bold:
 A Plaudit through th' eternal Courts will ring,
 And Praise, for thee, to the Cœlestial King.

With

(*q*) Job xxxii. 21, 22. (*r*) Dan. iii. 21. (*s*) Psalm
 viii. 2.

With *Friends* and *Elders* when you gather'd are
 In Jesus' Name, his (t) promis'd Presence there;
 No *useless Sights*, nor *Trifles*, then attend,
 But leave the Child at Home, and bring the Friend:
There wait to feel the *living Pow'r* arise;
There breathe to God your Wishes and your Sighs;
 His *Spirit* there, that best of Gifts, is giv'n,
 Which lifts and wings the Soul from Earth to Heav'n:
 The *Donor*, by whose (u) Promise it is due,
 Will give it; He lov'd Children, and loves you.

If any *Friend* is rais'd to declare
 The Gospel Truth, in *Spirit* draw thou near,
 That (x) Face to Face may be as in a Glafs,
 And mutual Life to him and thee may pass:
 Others will be encourag'd, still behind,
 When thy Behaviour and Concern they find;
 And will be glad to wish themselves like thee
 Their Pattern: Thou wilt their Example be.
 And when a *Friend* in Pray'r, by Pow'r divine,
 His Lips shall open, and his Knees incline,
 Join to adore thy Saviour, God and King,
 Join in his Praises, and thy (y) Off'ring bring;

Renew

(t) Mat. xviii. 20. (u) Acts ii. 39. (x) Prov.
 xxvii. 19. (y) Mat. xxi. 15, 16.

Renew th' Engagements of thy Soul above,
And bathe in Oceans of Eternal Love.

If thou art willing more to know and see,
Visit *thy Friends*, and oft at *Meetings* be;
There may'st thou learn (for theirs will be to shew)
How *Truth* does prosper, what its *Valiants* do;
Whose worthy noble Acts will there be known,
And swell thy Soul with Passions like their own:
Such Passions as the dying *Martyrs* felt,
Nor did the Fire they pass'd their Courage melt:
Such as the Saint when to his God he kneels;
And such as he who speaks Heaven's Message, feels.
With Gales like these cannot this World inspire,
Emit this Light, nor kindle up this Fire:
How dull, how languid, earthly Pleasures are!
A Round of Folly, Discontent and Care.
How mean is it to quarrel, play, and feast,
And by no other Motives than the Beast.

Finally, Children, *Idleness* avoid;
The virtuous Youth is still (and well) employ'd:
Thy Books, the Garden, and thy *Father's* Art,
At Home may useful Bus'ness oft impart:
There recreate thyself, and think it well
To shun the Paths, which others lead to Hell;
And may the *Blessed Spirit* you direct,
Directing, govern; governing, protect.

And You, their *Parents*, Your Assistance lend
 T'explain and make successful what is penn'd;
 This let them learn, repeating leifurely,
 Then ask, or tell them, what is meant thereby:
 Watch over them; 'tis worthy well your Care,
 O think what *Parents* to their Children are!
 Guardians for God; who likes you, or who blames:
 Fathers and Mothers, venerable Names!
 Learn hence your Duty to your Offspring dear,
 From Love to them, and to th' Almighty Fear;
 So double Happiness may you attend,
 For theirs is yours, and both's your faithful Friend,

Anthony Purver.

L O N D O N:

Printed and Sold by JAMES PHILLIPS, in George-
 .Yard, Lombard-Street. 1785.

23 JY 69